

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the AIDS pandemic. The disease has made a global journey from the Congo delta to Haiti and into our U.S. cities and suburbs. Today in the House we passed a total of \$3.4 billion global assistance to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, \$752 million above last year's level. The bill provides at least \$445 million for the U.S. contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS.

This global pandemic deserves a global leader to address the needs of victims and their families, develop new treatments and hopefully soon, discover a cure.